

STATINTL

ASSOCIATED PRESS

JULY 17, 1962

A 165 AX (270)

CPYRGHT

KEY WEST, FLA., JULY 17 (AP)—A DARK-HAIRED, NERVOUS YOUNG MAN IDENTIFIED AS A CAPTURED COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY LEADER SAID IN A TAPED INTERVIEW ON HAVANA TELEVISION TONIGHT THAT HE AND HIS GROUP HAD PLANNED TO ASSASSINATE PRIME MINISTER FIDEL CASTRO.

IN ANSWER TO NEWSMEN'S QUESTIONS, JUAN FALCON SAID THE PLOT AGAINST CASTRO AND OTHER GOVERNMENT CHIEFS FELL THROUGH BECAUSE SEVERAL MEMBERS OF HIS REVOLUTIONARY RECOVERY MOVEMENT (MRR) WERE TAKEN PRISONER.

"WE DIDN'T HAVE TIME," FALCON SAID. THE BROADCAST WAS MONITORED HERE.

HE ADMITTED THE MRR WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR LAST SEPTEMBER'S ATTEMPT TO KILL CARLOS RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ, THEN ONE OF CASTRO'S TOP AIDES AND NOW PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF AGRARIAN REFORM.

ASSAILANTS OPENED FIRE ON RODRIGUEZ' CAR BUT HE ESCAPED INJURY.

FALCON, WEARING A WHITE SHIRT, LIGHT TIE AND DARK JACKET, TWISTED HIS HANDS AND SHIFTED HIS CHAIR AS HE SPOKE. HE SAID HE WAS APPEARING VOLUNTARILY. EXILE LEADERS IN MIAMI SAID EARLIER TODAY THEY BELIEVED HE HAD BEEN BRAINWASHED.

FALCON SAID THE MRR HAD RECEIVED MONEY, ARMS AND RADIO EQUIPMENT FROM THE U.S. CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY. ONE OF THE NEWSMEN DISPLAYED A RADIO TRANSMITTER AND PISTOLS SAID TO BE SUPPLIED BY THE CIA.

"WE WERE CONSCIOUS THAT WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO DESTROY THE REVOLUTION ALONE AND FOR THAT REASON WE SUBMITTED OURSELVES TO THE CIA," FALCON SAID.

HE TOLD THE NEWSMEN THE MRR COMMITTED SABOTAGE AND TRIED TO DESTROY THE CUBAN ECONOMY BY INTERFERING WITH TRANSPORTATION AND POISONING CATTLE.

"SOME TIME AGO WE REACHED THE CONCLUSION THAT WE WERE AN INSTRUMENT OF NORTH AMERICAN IMPERIALISM BUT IT WAS TOO LATE TO TURN BACK," HE SAID.

THERE WAS NO HINT DURING THE INTERVIEW OF WHAT FATE MIGHT AWAIT YOUNG FALCON. NOR WERE THERE ANY DETAILS OF HOW THE YOUTH WAS CAPTURED.

RY 1002 PES NM

CPYRGHT